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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/158,308	09/22/1998	STEVEN CRAIG WEIRATHER	310048-401	3823

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EXAMINER

GRAY, LINDA LAMEY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1734

DATE MAILED: 03/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/158,308

Applicant(s)

WEIRATHER ET AL.

Examiner

Linda L. Gray

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10-31-05, 11-15-05, and 1-6-06.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 143, 182-194, 196-200, 213-283, and 292-403 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) → is/are allowed. 143, 182-194, 196-200, 213-281, 283, & 292-403
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 282 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

2. **Claim 282 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. (US 5,702,789) in view of Viby (WO 95/34879) and Hickenbotham et al. (US 4,704,317).**

Claim 282, Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. teach a method of forming printed media including providing printable media sheet construction 10 including (a) facestock sheet 75 having through-cut lines 14/16/18 separating sheet 75 into the plurality of printable media and (b) a plurality of strips 40 attached with adhesive to a back face of sheet 75 and over at least some of lines 14/16/18 and thereby holding the plurality of printable media together. Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. teach feeding construction 10' (analogous to construction 10), as shown in Figure 3, through a printer to conduct a printing operation on the plurality of printable media using a desktop printer (i.e., from a stack). After printing, the plurality of printed media are separated from strips 40 off of the adhesive (c 8, L 17-20; c 8, L 17, to c 9, L 27).

Claim 282 requires that the lamination of web 75 to strips 40 uses an ultraremovable adhesive where the pending specification indicates that an ultraremovable adhesive is one which is peeled off with the paper strips to provide a clean back side to the cardstock (p 7, L 25-26 of pending specification). Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. indicate that strips 40 have adhesive on one side (c 4, L 20-32; c 5, L 1-4) and that strips 40, with this adhesive, are easily removed and completely separated from final construction 10. Since the adhesive of Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. is one which is peeled off with strips 40 to provide a clean back side to web 75 which forms construction 10,

then the adhesive meets the definition of an ultraremovable adhesive as defined in the pending specification.

Claim 282, Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. do not teach **(a)** a specific material for strips 10, such as paper and **(b)** calendaring an edge of web 75.

For **(a)** above, Viby teaches a process for making tags 10 such as place cards, visiting cards, gift tags, name signs, badges, and identity cards (p 2, L 14-18). Tags 10 include providing a top cardstock web laminated to a plurality of strips 11 and 13. The cardstock web includes cuts defining printable media 17. Tags 10 are then fed through a printer. Strips 11 and 13 include adhesives 12 and 14, respectively, on the surface in contact with strips 11 and 13. Strips 11 and 13 support the cardstock web during printer on the surface where adhesive 12 and 13 remains with strips 11 and 13 after media 17 are separated therefrom (p 5, L 32, to p 6, L 36).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided in Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. that the material for strips 40 is paper because Viby teaches that paper is a material capable of acting as a support for a cardstock web thereon when fed through a printer with the cardstock web including cut media therein where Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. desire strips 40 to be of a material capable of acting as a support for cardstock web 75 thereon when fed through a printer with web 75 including cut media 15 therein.

For **(b)** above, Hickenbotham et al. teach feeding thin paper through an automatic printer. It is also recited that more stiff cardstock webs and liner-backed-webs are often hand-fed manually to the automatic printers due to their stiffness in that the stiffness

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often interferes with automatic feeding (c 1, L 1-51). To reduce hand-feeding to automatic printers and improve automatic feeding, Hickenbotham et al. teach calendaring the feeding area of the cardstock webs and liner-back-webs which includes, as shown in Figure 10, decreasing the thickness of the feeding edge (c 6, L 9-16).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided in Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. calendaring an edge of web 75, which is a liner-backed-web due to the presence of strips 40, because Hickenbotham et al. recognize that such webs tend to be stiff and often require hand-feeding to automatic printers due to this stiffness where calendaring the feeding area of these web reduces the need for hand-feeding and improves automatic feeding to a printer where web 75 of Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. is fed to an automatic printer after bonding with strips 40.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 143, 182-194, 196, 197-200, 213-217, 218-221, 222-226, 227-231, 232-241, 242-248, 249, 250, 251-252, 253, 254-255, 256-261, 262-266, 267 and 305, 268 and 306, 269-275, 276-281, 283, 292-294, 295-299, 300-304, 307-346, 347-358; 359-379 and 389, 390-399, 400, 401, and 402 with 403 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The closest prior art of record to White (US 4,128,954) does not teach the following:

claim 143: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form liner-sheet cut lines defining a plurality of liner sheet strips on a back side of facestock 10 where the liner sheet strips extend diagonally on the back of facestock 10; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 182: cutting sheet 27 without cutting facestock 10 to form a plurality of spaced liner strips on facestock 10 and a web of interconnected liner waste strips between the spaced liner strip; and, after cutting sheet 28, removing the web as a single unit off of facestock 10; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 196: cutting sheet 27 without cutting facestock 10 to form a plurality of spaced liner strips on facestock 10 and a web of interconnected liner waste strips between the spaced liner strip; and, after cutting sheet 28, removing the web as a single unit off of facestock 10 wherein medias 13, 15, and 18 are not business cards; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27 and medias 13, 15, and 18 are adhesive stickers;

claim 197: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form liner-sheet cut lines defining a plurality of liner sheet strips on a back side of facestock 10 and removing some of the liner sheet strips from facestock 10; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 213: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form liner-sheet cut lines defining a narrow liner sheet strip along a leading edge of facestock 10 and removing the liner sheet strip from facestock 10; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 218: cutting sheet 27 without cutting facestock 27 to form a liner-sheet cut liner which defines a narrow liner sheet strip along a leading edge of facestock 10 and removing the narrow liner sheet strip from facestock 10; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 222: forming a liner-sheet flexibility line in sheet 27 which forms a narrow liner sheet strip along a leading edge of facestock 10; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 227: without cutting facestock 10, forming on sheet 27 a liner-sheet flexibility liner which defines a narrow liner sheet strip along a leading edge of facestock 27; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 232: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form liner-sheet cut lines defining a plurality of liner sheet strips on a back side of facestock 10 and removing an end strip of facestock 10 to expose a top surface of a strip of an end one of the liner sheet strips; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 242: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form liner-sheet cut lines defining a plurality of liner sheet strips on a back side of facestock 10 and

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removing some of the strips from facestock 10; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 249: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form liner-sheet cut lines defining a plurality of liner sheet strips on a back side of facestock 10 wherein the liner sheet strips extend diagonally on the back of facestock 10; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 250: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form liner-sheet cut lines defining a plurality of liner sheet strips on a back side of facestock 10 wherein the liner-sheet cut lines have a wavy curved shape across the back of facestock 10; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 251: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form liner-sheet cut lines defining a plurality of liner sheet strips on a back side of facestock 10; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 253: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form liner-sheet cut lines defining a plurality of liner sheet strips on a back side of facestock 10 wherein the liner-sheet cut lines define oppositely-facing, fish-shaped strips; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 254: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form liner-sheet cut lines defining a plurality of liner sheet strips on a back side of facestock 10 wherein medias 13, 15, and 18 are not business cards; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27 and medias 13, 15, and 18 are adhesive stickers;

claim 256: that medias 13, 15, and 18 are not business cards; specifically, in White medias 13, 15, and 18 are adhesive stickers;

claim 262: removing an end strip of facestock 10 to expose a top surface of a strip of on end one of sheet 27; specifically, the area over sheet 27 of White is deliberately solid and not cut to allow for an end strip removal;

claim 267: that sheet 27 covers substantially the entire back surface of facestock 10 where areas of sheet 27 cover back sides of the cut lines and wherein medias 13, 15, and 18 are not business cards; specifically, White deliberately makes sheet 27 much smaller than the size of facestock 10 where the cut lines are not covered and medias 13, 15, and 18 are adhesive stickers;

claim 268: that areas of sheet 27 cover back sides of the cut lines and wherein medias 13, 15, and 18 are not business cards; specifically, White deliberately makes

sheet 27 much smaller than the size of facestock 10 where the cut lines are not covered and medias 13, 15, and 18 are adhesive stickers;

claim 269: die cutting sheet 27 to form liner strips and liner waste strips and removing the liner waste strips where cutting of facestock 10 and sheet 27 is after unwinding; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27 and facestock 10 is already cut before unwinding;

claim 276: cutting sheet 27 without cutting facestock 10 to form a plurality of spaced liner strips on facestock 10 and liner waste strips between the liner strips and removing the liner waste strips from off of facestock 10 by pulling such onto a rotating roller; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 292: die cutting sheet 27 without cutting facestock 10 to form a leading edge liner sheet waste strip where cutting of facestock 10 and sheet 27 is after unwinding; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27 and facestock 10 is already cut before unwinding;

claim 295: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form a liner-sheet cut line defining a leading or trailing edge liner sheet waste strip on a back side of facestock 10 and removing the waste strip from the back side; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 300: cutting through an outer face of sheet 27 to form a liner-sheet cut line defining a leading or trailing edge liner sheet strip on a back side of facestock 10 where the lines defines flexibility cut line; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27;

claim 307: that areas of sheet 27 cover back sides of the cut lines and wherein medias 13, 15, and 18 are not business cards; specifically, White deliberately makes sheet 27 much smaller than the size of facestock 10 where the cut lines are not covered and medias 13, 15, and 18 are adhesive stickers;

claim 347: that sheet 27 covers at least a substantial portion of the cut lines in that White deliberately makes sheet 27 much smaller than the size of facestock 10 where the cut lines are not covered;

claim 359: that sheet 27 covers at least substantially the entire back side of facestock 10 and the cut lines in that White deliberately makes sheet 27 much smaller than the size of facestock 10 where the cut lines are not covered; in White medias 13, 15, and 18 are not business cards but adhesive stickers; also White does not teach

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waste around medias 13, 15, and 18 in that White deliberately abuts medias 13, 15, and 18;

claim 390: waste around medias 13, 15, and 18 with medias 13, 15, and 18 not being business cards in that White deliberately abuts medias 13, 15, and 18 and medias 13, 15, and 18 are stickers;

claim 400: that medias 13, 15, and 18 are not business cards; specifically, in White medias 13, 15, and 18 are adhesive stickers;

claim 401: that the cut lines also cut the silicone layer in that the silicone layer is part of sheet 27 which White deliberately does not cut when cutting facestock 10; and

claim 402: cutting of facestock 10 is after unwinding; specifically, White deliberately does not cut sheet 27 and facestock 10 is already cut before unwinding.

Claim 283: the closest prior art to Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. (US 5,702,789) does not teach that media to include at least one scored fold line where media are folded on the fold line after printing; specifically, Fernandez-Kirchberger et al. deliberately provide only cut lines to form the media where the media is not intended to be folded.

5. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's reply must either comply with all formal requirements are specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 CFR 1.111(b) and MPEP 707.07(a).]

Response

6. Applicant's comments filed 10-31-05 have been fully considered, and the status of the pending claims in response thereto is noted above. This action is non-final in view of the new rejection to claim 282.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Linda Gray whose telephone number is (571) 272-1228. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Fiorilla, can be reached at (571) 272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

llg

January 23, 2005


LINDA GRAY
PRIMARY EXAMINER